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Abstract of the Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting of the American Medical Association, held in the city of Boston, May, 1849.

Boston, May 1st, 1849.

The Association assembled in the Hall of the Lowell Institute at 11 o'clock, A. M. The President, Dr. Stevens, in the chair.

Dr. J. C. Warren, on behalf of the Committee of Reception of the Massachusetts Medical Society, presented to the Association the salutation and welcome of his constituents. The proceedings were then opened by an address from the President.

The Committee on Arrangements reported the names of the delegates in attendance.

Dr. Knight offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That a committee composed of one member from each State, represented in this meeting, be selected by the delegates of the respective States, for the purpose of nominating officers.

A committee composed of the following gentlemen was accordingly elected.

Drs. Isaac Lincoln, *Maine*, W. H. Rockwell, *Vt.*, J. Bigelow, *Mass.*, A. Twitchell, *N. H.*, D. King, *R. I.*, George Sumner, *Conn.*, Isaac Wood, *N. Y.*, J. B. Munn, *N. J.*, S. Jackson, *Pa.*, T. M. K. Smith, *Del.*, R. S. Stewart, *Md.*, G. L. Corbin, *Va.*, N. J. Pittman, *N. C.*, H. R. Frost, *S. C.*, R. D. Arnold, *Ga.*, A. T. Morris, *Ala.*, B. B. Lenoir, *Tenn.*, J. P. Harrison, *O.*, James Jones, *La.*, John B. Johnson, *Mo.*, John Evans, *Ill.*

On motion of Dr. Z. B. Adams, the members of the Medical Staff of the Army and Navy of the United States, were invited to seats upon the floor.

The rules were then suspended, for the purpose of taking up the Reports of the Standing Committees; and the Report of the Committee on Publication, with the Treasurer's Report, was read, accepted, and the following resolutions accompanying the former, were *adopted*.

Resolved, That any delegate who is in arrears for an annual assessment shall not be considered as a permanent member.

Resolved, That the annual assessment for the present year shall be three dollars.

Resolved, That those delegates who pay the assessment shall be entitled to one copy of the Transactions for the present year, and that the payment of two dollars in addition shall entitle them to three copies of the same.

Resolved, That Societies which are represented at this meeting of the Association, shall be entitled to copies for their members, at the same rate at which they are furnished to delegates, viz., three copies for five dollars.

After which, the meeting adjourned until 3½ o'clock P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The committee charged with the nomination of officers, unanimously reported the following names for the several officers of the Association for the ensuing year, and their nomination was unanimously confirmed.

President, Dr. John C. Warren, *Mass.*

Vice-Presidents, Drs. John P. Harrison, *O.*, Hugh H. Maguire, *Va.*, Austin Flint, *N. Y.*, R. S. Stewart, *Md.*

Secretaries, Drs. Alfred Stillé, *Pa.*, Henry J. Bowditch, *Mass.*

Treasurer, Dr. Isaac Hays, *Pa.*

On motion of Dr. J. L. Atlee, a committee of five was appointed to wait upon the President elect, and request him to assume the chair.

This committee, consisting of Drs. J. L. Atlee, Twitchell, Morris, Parsons, and Horner, withdrew to perform their duty, and, during their absence, it was moved by Dr. Phelps, and agreed to, that the committee on nominations be continued, and requested to report the names of members for the several standing committees of the Association.

On motion of Dr. Gibbons it was

Resolved, That, during the present meeting of the Association, there be two daily sessions, the one commencing at 10 o'clock A. M., and the other at 3½ o'clock P. M.

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The committee appointed for that purpose, introduced the President elect, who was greeted by Dr. Stevens; and, after returning thanks, Dr. Warren took the chair.

Dr. Condie, Chairman of the Committee on Practical Medicine, presented his Report, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. S. H. Williams presented the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be presented to Dr. Stevens for the able and courteous manner in which he has presided over its deliberations, and to the other late officers of the Association, for the faithful manner in which they have performed their duties, and that the Ex-President and Ex-Vice Presidents be invited to retain their seats upon the platform.

Wednesday, May 2d.

The Committee on Arrangements announced the names of Delegates and Members registered since the last Report.

Dr. N. R. Smith, chairman, presented and read the Report of the Committee on Surgery, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on Publication.

It was resolved, on motion of Dr. Bowditch, that the next morning session be held in the Representatives Hall of Massachusetts.

The proposition to amend the constitution, proposed at the last meeting by Dr. Stewart, so as to allow to permanent members the right to vote was, on motion of Dr. Condie, referred to a Select Committee of five, to be appointed by the President.

The President appointed Drs. A. H. Stevens, G. B. Wood, D. F. Condie, J. Knight, and R. D. Arnold.

Dr. Gilman, acting chairman, presented and read the Report of the Committee on Obstetrics, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on Publication.

After which the Association adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

Dr. J. P. Harrison, chairman, presented and read the Report of the Committee on Medical Literature, which was accepted, and referred to the Committee on Publication. The following resolution, appended to said Report, was adopted, viz.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the measures recommended in this Report for the promotion of our National Medical Literature, with instructions to report at the next annual meeting of the Association.

The President appointed Drs. Harrison, Condie, and Hays, on this committee.

On motion of Dr. G. B. Wood, it was resolved that it be the duty of the same committee to report on the subject of an international copy-right law.

The Association then adjourned.

Thursday, May 3d.

The Association assembled in the Representatives Hall of the Capitol, at the appointed hour.

The minutes of Wednesday were read and approved.

On the proposition of Dr. Hays, Prof. Louis Agassiz, of Cambridge, Mass., was duly elected a permanent member of the Association.

The Report of the Committee on Medical Education, Dr. F. C. Stewart, Chairman, was, in his absence, presented and read by Dr. M. L. Taft.

Dr. Stevens offered the following resolution.

Resolved, That a special committee of seven be appointed on *Forensic Medicine*; a like committee on *Indigenous Botany and Materia Medica*; and a like committee on *Hygiene*; the members thereof to be nominated by the nominating committee.

Dr. Jno. Ware presented and read, with the consent of the Committee on Education, and as an appendix to their Report, a paper containing the views of the Medical Department of Harvard University upon the subject of lengthening the lecture term.

The Report of the Committee on Education was then, with its appended documents, received and referred to the Committee on Publication, and the Resolutions attached to the Report made the order of the day for 3½ P. M.

On motion of Dr. J. P. Harrison it was resolved that the nominating committee be requested to propose, at the afternoon session, a place for the next annual meeting of the Association.

On motion of Dr. Harrison, the Report of the Committee on Medical Sciences, presented by him, was, owing to the absence of the chairman, Dr. Yandell, referred to the Committee on Publication.

Dr. Parrish presented, and read that part of the Report of the Committee on Hygiene, which was prepared by the chairman, Dr.

Wynne, who was prevented from attending the meeting.

The nominating committee unanimously recommended *Cincinnati* as the place for the next annual meeting of the Association.

The report of the committee was accepted, and its recommendations confirmed.

Prof. Samuel Jackson, of Philadelphia, presented as a part of the Report on *Hygiene*, and read an Essay on the Influence of Tea and Coffee used as food.

Dr. Josiah Curtis, presented as part of the same Report, and read a Paper on the Sanitary Condition of Massachusetts.

Before this communication was finished, the Association adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

The order of the day was suspended to enable Dr. Curtis to conclude his Report; but shortly afterwards, on motion of Dr. Stevens, its further reading was dispensed with, and it, with the Paper of Dr. Jackson, referred to the Publishing Committee.

Dr. N. S. Davis presented the Report of the Committee on *Indigenous Botany*, which was in like manner referred.

The Association then went into committee of the whole, Dr. Knight in the chair, for the purpose of discussing the resolutions appended to the Report on Medical Education.

After some time spent in debate, the committee rose and reported progress, and its report was accepted.

On motion of Dr. Stevens, the resolutions appended to the Report of the Committee on Medical Education, were referred to a committee of three, with instructions to report at the next morning session.

On motion of Dr. Watts it was resolved that the communication of the New York Academy of Medicine, and the letter of Dr. Watson, be taken from the table, and referred to the same committee.

The President nominated Drs. Stevens, G. B. Wood, and Knight, as members of this committee, and the nomination was confirmed.

Friday, May 4th.

The President in the chair.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Arrangements announced the names of several delegates and members registered since the last Report.

On motion of Dr. Watts, it was *Resolved*, That after the adjournment of the Association, the several standing committees shall have power to supply all vacancies occurring in them.

Dr. Stevens, from the Special Committee to whom were referred the Resolutions appended to the Report on Medical Education, &c., presented the following Report.

The Committee to whom were referred the Resolutions offered by the Standing Committee on Medical Education, the letter of Dr. John Watson, and the resolutions of the New York Academy of Medicine, have the honor to report, that they have examined the several documents mentioned, and have agreed to recommend to the Association the adoption of the following Resolutions.

1. *Resolved*, That the Association reiterate their approval of the resolutions in reference to medical education adopted by the Convention, which met in Philadelphia in May, 1847, and contained in pages 73 and 74 of the published proceedings of that Convention.

2. *Resolved*, That the attention of the Medical Colleges be again directed to the Resolutions of the Committee on Preliminary Education, adopted by the Medical Convention of 1847, and that they be advised to require from their students that they shall in all instances present certificates of due preliminary acquirement prior to graduation.

3. *Resolved*, That physicians, generally, throughout the Union, be advised and requested to require of those wishing to become their pupils, evidence of a proper general education, before admission into their offices.

4. *Resolved*, That the Association does not sanction or recognize "College Clinics" as substitutes for Hospital Clinical instruction, and that the Medical Colleges be again advised to insist, in all instances, where it is practicable, on the regular attendance of their pupils, during a period of six months, upon the treatment of patients in a properly conducted hospital, or other suitable institution devoted to the reception and cure of the sick.

5. *Resolved*, That in accordance with a Resolution of the American Medical Association, adopted May 4th, 1847, "it is earnestly recommended to the physicians of those States in which State Medical Societies do not exist, that they take measures to organize them before the next meeting of this Association."

6. *Resolved*, That the State Societies be recommended, after they shall have been organized, to recognize as regular practitioners none who have not obtained a degree in medicine, or a license from some regular medical body, obtained after due examination.

7. *Resolved*, That the Association recommend to the various schools of medicine to meet at Cincinnati before the next annual meeting of this Association, and present a plan for elevating the standard of medical education to this Association.

The Committee do not deem it expedient that the Association should now adopt, further than may have been done in the preceding resolutions, the recommendations offered in the several documents referred to them.

On motion of Dr. Harrison, the Report was accepted, and the Association went into Committee of the Whole, Dr. Arnold in the chair, for the purpose of considering the Resolutions attached to the Report. These were taken up successively, and, after prolonged discussion,* were reported to the Association without amendment, but with the addition of the following, proposed by Dr. T. E. Bond, Jr.

Resolved, That this Association recommend the encouragement of private medical institutions, strongly advising that Dispensary practice be made, as far as practicable, a part of the means of instruction.

The Resolutions reported by the Committee of the Whole were then *adopted*.

Dr. Stille offered the following Resolution, which was *unanimously adopted*.

Resolved, That the members of the American Medical Association cannot separate on this occasion, without expressing the lively sense which they entertain of the courtesy, kindness, and hospitality so liberally extended to them by the Legislature of Massachusetts, the Medical Society of that State, the Faculties of Harvard University, and the Medical Profession, and private citizens of Boston, and which have so largely contributed to lighten their labours, to harmonize their opinions, and to draw more closely the ties of personal friendship.

Dr. Bowditch presented the following resolutions, which were also *unanimously adopted*.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to Mr. Stevens, the Sergeant-At-Arms of Massachusetts, for his courtesy, and gentlemanly deportment in making all the arrangements necessary for the convenience of the members during the days of session of the Association in the rooms under his charge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to John A. Lowell, Esq., of Boston, for his great courtesy in allowing this Association to use, for the first two days of its session, the Hall of the Lowell Institute.

Dr. Hays on behalf of the committee appointed to consider the subjects presented by the Report on Medical Literature, and the resolution of Dr. Wood, obtained permission to report *in part*, and submitted the following Resolution.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to memorialize Congress in favour of an International Copy-right Law.

This was so far amended as to require the proposed committee to prepare a memorial upon the subject, and submit it to the Association at its next annual meeting. The amended resolution was then *adopted*, and Drs. G. B. Wood, T. E. Bond, Jr., and I. Hays, appointed as the committee.

Dr. Evans offered the following preamble and resolution, which were *adopted*.

Whereas, Merit should be the test by which one individual is preferred to another; *and whereas*, the places of profit and honour in our profession should be open to the competition of all, in order that the best selections may be made, therefore,

Resolved, That trustees and others exercising the office of appointing Professors in Medical Schools, be requested to adopt the system of *concours*, or public trials, among the means resorted to for calling out the talent of the profession, and ascertaining the qualifications of applicants.

Various amendments to the constitution were offered for consideration at the next meeting—among others, one by Dr. Hays, to abolish all the *standing committees*, except those of arrangement and of publication.

Dr. G. B. Wood submitted the following preamble and resolution.

Whereas, A document prepared by the Medical Faculty of Harvard University,

* In the Committee of the Whole a proposition was made to amend the resolution, so that it should read—*Resolved*, That, "*while the Association admit the value of College Clinics*," they do not sanction, &c.—but the amendment was rejected.

and appended to the Report of the Committee on Medical Education, contains an elaborate defence of the limitation of the courses of medical instruction in the schools to four months; *and whereas*, this document has been referred, along with the Report of the Committee on Medical Education, to the Publishing Committee, and, if it be not mistaken by the public as a representation of the views of this Association, may at least have the effect of contravening those views, unless they be properly supported; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare at leisure a statement of the facts and arguments which may be adduced in favor of the prolongation of the courses to six months, and that the statement thus prepared be printed in the forthcoming volume of the transactions of the Association.

This resolution was adopted in the afternoon session, and the President appointed upon the committee Drs. S. Jackson (Prof.), J. L. Atlee and Stillé.

Adjourned.

Afternoon Session.

Dr. U. Parsons, from a select committee appointed at the meeting of 1848, made a report upon the subject of adulterated and spurious drugs, and offered the following resolutions.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of two delegates from each State here represented, be chosen by the president to note all the facts that come to their knowledge with regard to the adulteration and sophistication of drugs, medicines, chemicals, &c., and to report them at the next annual meeting.

Resolved, That the President sign and forward to the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy a letter, stating that the Association are pleased to hear of its laudable intention to prepare and publish some simple directions for detecting adulterations in medicine adapted to the understanding of the people generally, and would be highly gratified could they welcome its appearance before the next annual meeting.

On motion, the Report was referred to the Committee on Publication, and the resolutions were adopted.

Dr. Stevens presented the following Report.

The committee appointed to consider and report on the proposal to alter the constitution, so as to give permanent members the right of voting report adversely to said proposal, which report was laid on the table.

Dr. Stevens submitted the following preamble and resolution, which were ordered to lie on the table.

In view of the advantage derived by the Associations in East Tennessee and in the State of New York, from popular lectures designed to enlighten the public mind in relation to the new position of medical men in their relation to society,

Resolved, That the American Medical Association recommend medical men in Associations and individually, by public lectures and otherwise, to enlighten the public mind in regard to the duties and responsibility of the medical profession, and their just claims to the confidence of the public.

Dr. Phelps, and Dr. Gibbons, introduced resolutions prescribing modes of limiting the length of time occupied in reading the annual reports to the Association, but they were passed by in favour of a resolution offered by Dr. Hays, which was adopted as follows.

Resolved, That the attention of the several standing committees be directed to the articles of the Constitution defining their duties, and which require them to report upon the progress of medicine in this country alone, and only "during the year of their service."

Dr. Ware submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Committee on Practical Medicine be instructed to inquire into the expediency of adopting the English language exclusively in the writing of prescriptions, and in all directions for the composition and administration of medicines, and to report at the next annual meeting of the Association.

A resolution offered by Dr. Bachelder, providing for the publication, by the several counties and districts represented in this Association, "of all the Physicians and Surgeons of such districts, who are recognized as regularly educated practitioners," was laid on the table. A similar disposition was made of a proposed amendment to the Constitution, introduced at the last annual meeting by Dr. Dunbar, and which provides for the appointment of a standing committee on "American Medical Biography."

Dr. Geo. B. Wood, of Philadelphia, rose

and stated that he had a brief report to make, as a delegate from this Association to the British Association, and to the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association of England, the annual meetings of which he had attended in August last, in fulfilment of the objects of his appointment. Of the British Association he had only to say, that he was treated with all due personal courtesy, and invited to participate in the proceedings of that body with the privileges of a member. By the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, he had been received with the most flattering distinction in his capacity as a delegate. The Association appeared to be much gratified with the compliment paid them; expressed through their President their high appreciation of this Society, and their reciprocation of the sentiments conveyed to them; and passed a resolution unanimously requesting him, (Dr. Wood,) to convey their thanks to the American Medical Association.

On motion, it was ordered that a minute be made of Dr. Wood's Report.

Dr. Stevens presented the following resolution, which was *unanimously adopted.*

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be given to their President, Dr. John C. Warren, for the dignified, impartial, and courteous manner in which he has discharged his duties.

Dr. J. B. Johnson introduced the following preamble and resolution, originally presented by him to the Medical Convention which met at Philadelphia, in 1847; and they were referred to the standing committee on Medical Education, accordingly.

Whereas, numberless and important evils result from the almost universal practice of allowing persons, wholly ignorant of Drugs and Medicines, to engage as Apothecaries; and still greater from the universal traffic in patent and secret remedies:

Therefore resolved, That the Committee on Education inquire into the expediency of establishing a School, or Schools of Pharmacy in the respective States, for the special purpose of preparing persons for the business of Apothecaries; and also the expediency of adopting a rule, that no Physician ought to patronize a Druggist or Apothecary who deals in patent and secret medicines—and report at the next annual meeting of the Association.

Dr. James Wood presented the following resolution, which was *adopted.*

Resolved, That the Committee on Medical Science for 1849, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Board to analyze the quack remedies and nostrums now palmed upon the public, and to publish the results of their examinations in a newspaper to be established for the purpose; and, further, to append such plain views and explanations thereto, as will enlighten the public in regard to the nature and dangerous tendencies of such remedies.

Dr. Gibbons offered the following resolutions which were *unanimously adopted.*

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be presented to the Committee of Arrangements for the very efficient and agreeable manner in which they have discharged the arduous duties that have devolved upon them; and to the Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurer, for the diligence and ability which they have shown in their several respective offices.

Resolved, That the Association respectfully presents its thanks to the officers and managers of the various public and other institutions for the privilege of admission generously extended by them to the members of the Association.

Dr. Z. B. Adams, on behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, replied in an appropriate address; and, after receiving the congratulations of the President on the auspicious termination of its annual labours,

The Association adjourned *sine die.*

The following are the STANDING COMMITTEES for the year.

Committee of Arrangements.—Dr. Drake, *Chairman;* Drs. Dodge, Judkins, Rives, Lawson, Richards, Strader, Cincinnati.

Committee on Medical Sciences.—Dr. Usher Parsons, Providence, R. I., *Chairman;* Drs. J. Bigelow, Boston, J. B. S. Jackson, Boston, A. B. Malcolm, Iowa, Jas. Moultrie, Charleston, S. C., G. Emerson, Philadelphia, D. King, Newport, R. I.

Committee on Practical Medicine.—Drs. J. K. Mitchell, Philadelphia, *Chairman;* Drs. R. La Roche, Philada., F. West, Philada., J. A. Swett, N. York, B. R. Jones, N. Orleans, R. D. Arnold, Savannah, Smith, Ind.

Committee on Surgery, Dr. R. D. Mussey, Cincinnati, *Chairman;* Drs. W. M. Awl, Columbus, O., A. B. Shipman, Syracuse, N. Y., George Fox, Philada., L.

A. Dugas, Augusta, Ga., S. Parkman, Boston, J. R. Wood, N. York.

Committee on Obstetrics.—Dr. T. G. Prioleau, Charleston, S. C., *Chairman;* Drs. L. D. Ford, Augusta, Ga., Robert Lebby, Charleston, S. C., Josiah Bartlett, Stratton, N. H., H. F. Askew, Wilmington, Del., John Evans, Chicago, Ill., Isaac Lincoln, Brunswick, Me.

Committee on Medical Education.—Dr. J. Roby, Baltimore, Md., *Chairman;* Dr. Blatchford, Troy, N. Y., G. C. M. Roberts, Balt., R. W. Sylvester, Norfolk, Va., F. A. Ramsay, Knoxville, Tenn., Dr. George Sumner, Hartford, Conn., W. F. Rockwell, Brattleboro, Vt.

Committee on Medical Literature.—Dr. Alfred Stille, Philada., *Chairman;* Drs. F. G. Smith, Philada., T. H. Yardley, Philada., P. C. Gaillard, Charleston, S. C., N. T. Morris. Montgomery, Ala., J. Fithian, Woodbury, N. J., J. B. Johnson, St. Louis, Mo.

Committee on Publication.—Dr. I. Hays, Philada., *Chairman;* Drs. A. Stille, Phila., H. J. Bowditch, Boston, D. F. Condie, Philada., B. F. Barker, Norwich, Ct., Isaac Wood, N. York, Pittman, N. C.

Special Committees.

Committee on Forensic Medicine.—Dr. A. H. Stevens, New York, *Chairman;* Drs. Luther V. Bell, Boston, Pliny Earle, New York, W. F. Rockwell, Vt., Robert Watts, Jr., New York, R. S. Stewart, Baltimore, J. Knight, N. Haven, Ct.

Committee on Indigenous Botany and Materia Medica.—Dr. Eli Ives, N. Haven, *Chairman;* Drs. G. L. Corbin, Warwick Co., Va., W. B. Cochran, Middleburg, Va., H. R. Frost, Charleston, S. C., W. H. Davis, Baltimore, B. B. Lenoir, Roane County, Tenn., J. P. Harrison, Cincinnati.

Committee on Hygiene.—Dr. J. M. Smith, N. York, *Chairman;* Drs. Gardener, N. Y., E. Jarvis, Dorchester, Mass., A. G. M. Cooke, Norfolk, Va., A. S. Holmes, St. Louis, Mo., G. Emerson, Philada., J. C. Simonds, N. Orleans.

The duties of the Standing Committees, as defined by the Constitution, are as follows:—

The Committee on Arrangements shall, if no sufficient reasons prevent, be mainly composed of members residing in the place at which the Association is to hold its next annual meeting; and shall be required to provide suitable accommodations for the meeting, to verify and report upon the credentials of membership, to receive and announce all essays and memoirs voluntarily communicated, either by members of the Association, or by others through them, and to determine the order in which such papers are to be read and considered.

The Committee of Medical Sciences shall prepare an annual Report on the progress of Medical Sciences in America, noticing, as occasion may require, the more important improvements and discoveries in Anatomy, Physiology, Hygiène, General Pathology, and Therapeutics, Medical jurisprudence, Materia Medica, and other branches of natural science, bearing directly on the condition and progress of medical knowledge *in America. during the year of their service.*

The Committee on Practical Medicine shall prepare an annual Report on the more important improvements effected in this country in the management of individual diseases; and on the progress of epidemics; referring, as occasion requires, to medical topography, and to the character of prevailing diseases in special localities, or in the *United States* generally, *during the term of their service.*

The Committee on Surgery shall prepare an annual Report on all the important improvements in the management of surgical diseases effected in *America during the year.*

The Committee on Obstetrics shall prepare an annual Report on all the important improvements in the Obstetric Art, and in the management of diseases peculiar to women and children, effected in *America during the year.*

The Committee on Medical Education shall prepare an annual Report on the general condition of Medical Education in the United States, in comparison with the state of medical education in other enlightened nations; noticing, as occasion may call for, the courses of instruction, the practical requirements for graduation, the modes of examination for conferring degrees, and the reputed number of pupils and of graduates at the several medical institutions in the United States, during the year: noticing also the requirements of the United States Army and Navy Boards of Medical Examiners, the legal requirements exacted of medical practitioners in our several States,

and all such measures, prospective or established, in reference to medical education and the reputable standing of the profession, as may be deemed worthy of special consideration.

The Committee on Medical Literature shall prepare an annual Report on the general character of the periodical medical publications of the United States, in reference to the more important articles therein presented to the Profession, on original American medical publications, on medical compilations and compends by American writers, on American reprints of foreign medical works, and on all such measures as may be deemed advisable for encouraging and maintaining a national literature of our own.

The Committee on Publication, of which the Secretaries and Treasurer must constitute a part, shall have charge of preparing for the press, and of publishing and distributing such of the proceedings, transactions, and memoirs of the Association, as may be ordered to be published. The six members of this Committee, who have not the immediate management of the funds, shall also in their own names as agents for the Association, hold the bond of the Treasurer for the faithful execution of his office, and shall annually audit and authenticate his accounts, and present a statement of the same in the annual Report of the Committee; which Report shall also specify the character and cost of the publications of the Association during the year, the number of copies still at the disposal of the meeting, the funds on hand for further operations, and the probable amount of the Assessment to be laid on each member of the Association for covering its annual expenditures.

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Progress of Cholera in Paris.—It is stated in *L' Union Médicale*, of the *3d April*, that up to the previous day there had occurred 852 cases and 481 deaths. Of this number there were in the Salpétrière alone 330 cases and 218 deaths! The in-patients of hospitals have suffered severely on this occasion. Out of 349 cases, 242 occurred among in-patients.

The proportionate mortality is nearly the same in every district, but in the hospital of St. Louis, there were 23 deaths out of 28 cases! Notwithstanding these unfavourable results, the cholera does not spread so rapidly as it did in 1832, and its symptoms appear to have become much modified. On the former occasion, persons died by thousands where the deaths may be now reckoned by hundreds. But while the disease manifests less severity in its attacks, it is equally intractable; and the deaths in any given number of cases, are just as numerous as in 1832. It will be seen that the mortality in the Parisian hospitals, provided with the best and most ample medical assistance, amounts to 50 per cent., the same as that which was observed among the Uralian provinces of the Russian Empire, where indifferent medical attendance could be only sparingly obtained! This fact strikingly confirms the general opinion, that in the advanced stage of the disease, medicine is powerless.

Several nurses in the hospitals have been attacked, and we regret to learn, by the latest intelligence, that Professor Fouquier had been seized with symptoms of the disease.

April 16th. Up to this date there has occurred 1989 cases, and 1132 deaths. This is equal to a mortality of 57 per cent. In the Salpétrière alone, the deaths have been 72 per cent.! It is a remarkable fact, that the mortality has been at its maximum in two of the Parisian hospitals, La Charité and L'Hôpital Beaujon, which are not only well situated, but in an excellent sanitary condition. In the former, the deaths have been 60, and in the latter, 59 per cent. In the Hôtel Dieu, situated in a most unhealthy quarter, the deaths have been only 45 per cent.; and in La Pitié and St. Louis, also badly situated, 50 and 51 per cent.

In comparing the mortality from cholera in Paris with that which has been observed in London, we arrive at the following result: In *thirty* weeks the cholera proved fatal in London and the surrounding districts, to 1002 persons. Paris has only one-half the population of London; but in only *five* weeks the cholera has destroyed in that city 1132 persons.

April 25th. According to the latest accounts the cholera was on the decrease. The cases and deaths were fewer—a fact which was especially remarked with respect to the admissions into the Salpétrière. Up to the 23d inst, there had been in the public hospitals and infirmaries, 2541 cases, and 1418 deaths. Of these, 808 cases and 578 deaths occurred in the Salpétrière alone. In addition to the fatal cases above mentioned, the deaths in the city of Paris up to April 19th, were 471, making a total of 1889 deaths in six weeks.